

Message Text

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DEPT FOR S/NM; DEA FOR TRI; CUSTOMS FOR INTERN'L OPERATIONS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR VE
SUBJ: NARCOTICS TRAINING FACILITIES

REF: STATE 284346

1. IN OCTOBER 1975 WE INITIATED ACTIVITIES WITH THE GOV TO ASSIST THEM IN DEVELOPING THEIR OWN NARCOTICS TRAINING CAPABILITY. WE HELD MEETINGS WITH HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS OF THE FOUR ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES CONCERNED AND DISCUSSED WAYS AND MEANS BY WHICH THIS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED. OUR PROPOSAL TO TRAIN EIGHT OFFICERS FROM FOUR AGENCIES WHO WOULD RETURN AND FORM A JOINT TRAINING TEAM, AS WELL AS AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE, WAS ACCEPTED BY THE GOV OFFICIALS. (REFERENCE CARACAS 12336, 11-26-75 AND CARACAS 12395, 11-28-75).

2. CONSEQUENTLY, WE SENT EIGHT VENEZUELAN OFFICERS TO DEA'S SPECIALIZED SIX-WEEK TRAINING PROGRAM FOR INSTRUCTORS IN SEP/OCT. 1976. IN ADDITION, WE SENT ONE HIGH LEVEL OFFICIAL, (WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR TRAINING), FROM EACH AGENCY TO AN ORIENTATION PROGRAM IN SEPT. 1976.

3. MEANTIME, WE HAVE HAD THREE MEETINGS WITH THE MINISTRY OF COORDINATION AND PLANNING (CORDIPLAN) IN WHICH WE DISCUSSED THE OVERALL CONCEPT OF COORDINATED EFFORT TO ACHIEVE THE ABOVE AND IT HAS BEEN WELL RECEIVED.

4. CCINC'S NEW EMPHASIS ON TRAINING OBJECTIVES AS OUTLINED
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IN REFTEL FIT OUR OWN OBJECTIVES VERY WELL AND WE FEEL THAT WE

ARE NOW READY TO PROCEED. WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF COMPLETING PHASE 1) OF A SELF-SUFFICIENT NARCOTICS TRAINING PROGRAM AS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF REFTEL. SPECIFICALLY, WE INTEND TO SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHING OF SPECIALIZED NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AT THE TECHNICAL JUDICIAL POLICE (PTJ) ACADEMY.

(PTJ HAS PRIMACY OVER NARCOTICS LAW ENFORCEMENT). WE ENVISION THAT THIS TRAINING WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL OTHER AGENCIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND EVENTUALLY TO THIRD COUNTRIES.

5. ADDITIONALLY, WE PROPOSE TO SUPPORT NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AT THE NATIONAL GUARD, CUSTOMS, AND THE METROPOLITAN POLICE, AS IT APPLIES TO THEIR NEEDS, UTILIZING THE JOINT TRAINING TEAM.

6. TO ACCOMPLISH OUR OBJECTIVES WE REQUEST THE VISIT OF DEA'S SPECIALIZED TRAINING TEAM AS SOON AS IT CAN BE ARRANGED.

7. WE HAVE MET WITH THE GROUP WHO ATTENDED THE DEA SPECIALIZED TRAINING AND ARE PLANNING A TRAINING PROGRAM TO BE HELD AT THE PTJ ACADEMY IN EARLY 1977. THE GROUP OF EIGHT WILL CONDUCT THE TRAINING. WE WOULD WELCOME THE ASSISTANCE OF ONE OR MORE MEMBERS OF THE SPECIALIZED TRAINING TEAM AND WILL KEEP WASHINGTON INFORMED OF OUR PROGRESS SO THAT THEIR VISIT MAY BE PLANNED IN THE NEAR FUTURE. BASED ON AN ASSESSMENT OF THIS FIRST PROGRAM WE WILL PROJECT FUTURE PROGRAMS AND ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS.

8. FOLLOWING ARE ANSWERS TO PARAGRAPH 5 OF REFTEL: A) QUESTION: DO HOST GOVERNMENT AGENCIES OR ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH NARCOTICS CONTROL HAVE A NARCOTICS TRAINING PROGRAM, PER SE?; ANSWER: EACH OF THE FOUR AGENCIES, PTJ, NATIONAL GUARD, CUSTOMS, AND THE METROPOLITAN POLICE OF CARACAS CONDUCTS SOME TRAINING WITHIN THE CURRICULA OF THEIR TRAINING INSTITUTIONS. WITH THE GOV WE PLAN TO REASSESS PRESENT PROGRAMS AS PART OF OUR PLANNING PROCESS.

B) QUESTION: DO THESE AGENCIES PROVIDE NARCOTICS TRAINING AS PART OF OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING PROGRAMS? ANSWER: EACH AGENCY HAS ITS OWN TRAINING INSTITUTION WHERE THEY PROVIDE BASIC, SPECIALIZED, AND PROMOTIONAL COURSES. SOME NARCOTICS TRAINING HAS BEEN INCLUDED IN EACH TYPE OF TRAINING UNCLASSIFIED

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DURING THE PAST YEAR.

C) QUESTION: WHAT GENERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING FACILITIES EXIST?

ANSWER: THE PTJ NATIONAL ACADEMY; THE PTJ DETECTIVE SCHOOL; THE NATIONAL TREASURY SCHOOL, WHICH IS A SECTION FOR CUSTOMS TRAINING; THE NATIONAL GUARD OFFICER'S ACADEMY; ENLISTED MEN'S SCHOOL, AND SPECIALIZED SCHOOL FOR CUSTOMS SUPPORT (NEWLY CREATED); THE POLICE INSTRUCTION CENTER (METRO-

POLITAN POLICE OF CARACAS.

D) QUESTION: WHAT TRAINING HAVE INSTRUCTORS OF THESE FACILITIES HAD, AND WHAT ARE THEIR CAPABILITIES FOR NARCOTICS INSTRUCTION?

ANSWER: SEE PARAGRAPH 2. ALSO, TWELVE OFFICERS RECEIVED IN-COUNTRY INSTRUCTORS TRAINING AS A SUPPLEMENT TO THE US. CUSTOMS TWO-WEEK SCHOOL. WE BELIEVE THE GOV HAS SUFFICIENT HUMAN RESOURCES FOR NARCOTICS INSTRUCTION AT THIS TIME.

E) QUESTION: WHAT NARCOTICS TRAINING HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO/BY THEM WITHIN THE PAST THREE YEARS?

ANSWER: SEE PARAGRAPH 2.

F) QUESTION: WHAT ARE THE MEASURABLE RESULTS OF LOCAL TRAINING PROVIDED THUS FAR?

ANSWER: FOR LACK OF STATISTICAL DATA IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE A DEFINITE ANSWER AS TO SEIZURE AND ARRESTS. HOWEVER, THE TRAINING HAS RESULTED IN A KEENER AWARENESS OF THE DRUG PROBLEM.

9. WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS G.H, AND I IN PARAGRAPHS 1 THROUGH 7 OF THIS CABLE TO EXPLAIN OUR OWN OBJECTIVES OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS. ALTHOUGH VENEZUELA IS NOT CONSIDERED A PRIORITY COUNTRY IN TERMS OF PRODUCTION, PROCESSING OR TRAFFICKING OF HARD DRUGS, THE POTENTIAL FOR FINANCIAL BASE AND FOR TRAFFICKING IS VERY REAL. GIVEN THE ADVANCED STAGE OF PREPARATION OF THE GOV TO CONDUCT ITS OWN TRAINING AND THEIR WILLINGNESS AND DESIRE TO OFFER THEIR FACILITIES FOR THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING, WE ASK THAT CCINC GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO OUR REQUEST FOR SUPPORTING OUR PROJECT.

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